

DR. S. A. MOFFETT.

1906

The Eminent Missionary from Madison.

The Rev. S. A. Moffett, D. D., preached Sunday morning at the First Presbyterian church occupying the pulpit of Dr. J. S. Hawk who has been a close friend of the visitor for the past 20 years.

Dr. Moffett is a native of Madison, Ind., and a graduate of Hanover College and McCormick Seminary at Chicago. He is at this time Moderator of the New Albany Presbytery, President of the Korean Missionary Council and President of the Theological Seminary of Korea which has been his sphere of labor for many years.

Robert Speer of New York, secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, considers Dr. Moffett the brightest missionary in the entire field. He is a fine and vigorous speaker and well worth the hearing.

After the service members of the Presbyterian Brotherhood met Dr. Moffett personally. He is on his way to Omaha, Neb., to take part in and speak at a conference for men on missionary work.—Jeffersonville News.

TWO THOUSAND CONVERTS IN TWENTY DAYS

IN Korea the march of Christianity is a triumphal progress. The Missionary Review of the World says:

"When Rev. Samuel A. Moffat, D. D., entered Pyeng Yang, sixteen years ago, there was not a Christian in the city.

On June 1, the morning of his departure for America, more than 1,000 Christians walked three miles to the station to



bid him farewell. Men, women, school boys and girls sang Christian hymns, and fifty theological students came forward and, through two of their number, pinned on his coat a silver medal as a token of love. There is now a Christian constituency of more than 5,000.

"The Men's Association of the Pyeng Yang city church are about to erect a new building, one member having given a site. The work is carried on by a committee of twenty-six men, elected by the various officers of the combined city churches. The building when completed will contain a reading room, study classes, committee room and a general mission agency. The new church in the northern part of Pyeng Yang city started with less than one hundred members. It now has 250, and is completing a building which will hold four hundred. The money for the building was furnished by the Koreans, more than half of whom had not been six months out of heathenism. Some contributions were as large as 500 nyang, equivalent to \$500 in America, a half-year's income.

PROMINENT MISSIONARY STUDYING AT THE SEMINARY.

1906-07

The Reverend Samuel A. Moffett, D.D., a prominent missionary from Korea, is at present staying at the Seminary, where he is studying both the system in use there and, to a certain extent, that in Princeton University. Dr. Moffett lived in Korea during the war between China and Japan, and became thoroughly acquainted with the conditions of the former country and its inhabitants. It has been mainly through his plans and his knowledge of the East that the missionary work in Korea has been the most progressive in the world. The object of his journey to this country is to study the systems of the different universities and theological seminaries in America and then to modernize the present seminary in Korea. He also expects to secure aid to help him carry on the work in that country. He will leave for Korea in the coming fall.

1906

General Assembly of Korea in Prospect

Next September Presbyterians will have the pleasure of announcing to the world the organization of a new national General Assembly to be added to the Pan-Presbyterian Alliance. It will be the General Assembly of Korea. The final act providing for this new denominational organization was passed when the Presbytery of Korea met this fall. This presbytery divided itself into seven new presbyteries, which are to include the work not only of the missionaries of the New York board, but also the stations manned by the missionaries of the Presbyterian Board at Richmond and of the Canadian and Australian churches.

In this final session of Korea Presbytery, the missions committee made a rather dismal report of the work which the Korean churches had begun at Vladivostok. Funds were very low, and the station at Vladivostok strongly demanded reinforcements. As the presbytery was discussing the critical problem a telegram was received from fourteen men in Pyeng Yang offering 300 yen. The stimulus of this gift prompted the presbytery in a few dramatic moments to subscribe 400 yen more, all given personally by the commissioners present. These generous donations relieved the situation very materially, and the Vladivostok work is proceeding with new zest.

Rev. Samuel A. Moffett was appointed Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions at the State Christian Endeavor Convention at Indianayolis.

Bulletin No. 12

KOREA

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE
U. S. A., 156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

Two Important Letters

"Headquarters of Pacific Division,
"San Francisco, Calif.

"MY DEAR DR. BROWN:—Upon my return to San Francisco after a long absence, I find your note of November 10, 1905, in which reference is made to my visit to the Severance Hospital in Seoul. I hasten to acknowledge the same, as it affords me an opportunity to express in a formal manner the warmest appreciation of the splendid work the missionaries are doing in the hospital, and the great satisfaction that should accrue to all who are concerned in the creation of such an admirable institution. My recollection is that the hospital needs just a little more financial support to make it a perfect establishment, in which connection I recommend it for the most generous consideration. In a very extended tour of the entire East I found no institution doing more beneficent work than the Severance Hospital in Seoul.

"I desire further to speak in the highest terms of commendation of the missionary work I saw elsewhere in Korea, especially at Pyeng Yang, where a devoted and intelligent body of Presbyterian missionaries are doing the most admirable work and diffusing a general tone of Christianity and civilization throughout an extensive region; such work is certainly deserving of the most cordial and generous support.

"I remain with esteem,

"Very respectfully,

(Signed)

"ARTHUR MAC ARTHUR,
"Representative U. S. Government
"Russo-Japanese War."

"MY DEAR DR. WELLS:—When Mrs. Harriman was here (Seoul) she left \$100 in gold with me to give to some object which distinctly benefited the Koreans. On the eve of my leaving Seoul, it seems to me that I can do nothing better with her gift than to turn it over to you for your hospital, or for such other use as may seem expedient to you.

"I regret I am leaving Korea without again seeing you. Our Pyeng Yang nights and days are among the pleasantest experiences of my too short stay in this country.

"With best compliments to Mrs. Wells,

"Yours very sincerely,

(Signed)

"EDWIN MORGAN,
"U. S. Minister to Korea."

TWO ROYAL GIFTS.

1. A few months ago the Government of Korea sent to Dr. O. R. Avison, physician in charge of the Severance Hospital, the sum of yen three thousand (\$1,500) for use in the Hospital. In the letter conveying the gift was a statement that next year the contribution would be still larger.

2. A few days later, the King of Korea, through his interpreter, handed to Dr. Avison an additional 3,000 yen as a personal gift, an expression of His Majesty's approval of the excellent work done by Dr. Avison.

A BUILDING FEVER IN FUSAN DISTRICT.

Ten new church buildings were erected by the Fusan Christians during the three Spring months of the year. In one county there was not a believer a year ago, now scores of believers and a church building, erected by their own hands. With two exceptions every piece of money for these churches came from the Korean money strings. A church seating 120 cost \$40. This means fifty thousand pieces of Korean cash which must be counted carefully, and when counted and carried, caused three men to stagger under the weight. The 500,000 pieces of cash (10 churches) came from people whose income is fifteen cents a day. "Christians are increasing so rapidly in so many places, we sing praises one moment; next, stagger under increasing problems."

In the Junkin Memorial Hospital and Mary Collins Whiting Dispensary, 9,000 patients cared for.

Fifty per cent. increase along all evangelical lines in Fusan.

GROWTH OF SELF-SUPPORT IN SEOUL.

Fifty young men are in the Theological Training Class. In addition to studies they visit groups, preach on Sunday, encourage the native leaders, help in difficult church questions. Forty-four are supported entirely by the native church, which in addition supports its own schools and most of its colporteurs.

One Korean teacher was the means of bringing 30 young men into the church who have started a night school, the expense being paid by the new converts.

The new church at Syng Dong, costing 844 yen, paid for by the Koreans, has four hundred square feet more of floor space than the old building. Crowded within a month after its erection. Necessary to enlarge. Now will seat a thousand.

Book-store busy—6,362 books, Bibles and other religious books sold. Formerly books were sold two or three at a time. Now in jickie loads.

The work in the Magun Kol field started three years ago. Only in two houses were there Christians. Now embraces 30 villages with fully two hundred people calling themselves Christians.

In one trip through eight villages, 163 candidates for baptism examined, and 63 new catechumens added. Four hundred people attended the two weeks' Bible class at Seoul, many of them coming from the country districts, all paying their own expenses.

The Boys' School, under joint control of Methodists and Presbyterians, a great success.

In-patients, Severance Hospital, 450; out-patients, at least 13,000. One patient whose bill was yen 40, paid yen 100; while another whose bill was yen 6, paid yen 10.

In the Chong Ju district, there are three territories each with a population of 250,000, each needing a missionary. The Pyeng Yang Christians, seeing the need, sent a home missionary to work in the district and paid all his expenses. These provinces are called "The Gentleman Provinces." Many of the upper class men have turned this year to Christ.

THE NEW STATION AT CHAI RYONG.

Chai Ryong, a city of 5,000 inhabitants, is the new station opened in the Province of Whang Hai, a province of some 23 counties, and a million inhabitants. Chai Ryong lies between Seoul and Pyeng Yang. In this territory there are now 100 groups, 2,000 baptized communicants, 6,500 adherents and members. Elders, deacons, helpers, school-teachers, Christians—all needing help. A magis-

trate in the province said to a Korean: "I have been in this office some time now, and during that time no Christian has ever been before me charged with crime. I have observed them and they are good people. It would be a good thing for our country if all the people would become Christians."

PYENG YANG SIXTEEN YEARS AFTER.

The Rev. Samuel A. Moffett, D.D., left Pyeng Yang on June 1st for America, after sixteen years' work. When he entered Pyeng Yang there was not a Christian in the city—the morning of his departure more than a thousand Christians walked three miles to the station to bid him farewell. Men, women, school-boys and girls sang Christian hymns, and fifty theological students came forward and through two of their number pinned on his coat silver medals as a token of love. There is now a Christian constituency of more than 5,000.

The 25th of June was a red-letter day in the Station. Great meeting for College education. Addresses, songs, enthusiasm, offering: gifts consisting of lands, gold rings, ornaments, cash, amounting to 5,000 yen were received.

The Men's Association of the Pyeng Yang City church are about to erect a new building, one member having given a site. The work is carried on by a committee of twenty-six men, elected by the various officers of the combined city churches. The building when completed will contain reading-room, study classes, committee room, a general mission agency—the "156 Fifth Avenue" of Pyeng Yang.

The new church in the northern part of Pyeng Yang city, started with less than a hundred members, now has 250, and is completing a building which will hold 400. The money for the building was furnished by the Koreans, more than half of whom had not been six months out of heathenism. Some contributions were as large as 500 nyang, equivalent to \$500 in America, a half year's income.

At the Caroline R. Ladd Hospital, last year, 2,376 patients, of which 6,454 were new cases. Dr. Wells performed 203 operations. His assistants performed 153. In leaving the old hospital to take up the new, generously given by Mrs. Ladd, Dr. Wells says: "I cannot leave the old plant provided by the Moffett family of Madison, Indiana, now turned into a school for girls and women, without expression of thanks for myself and the 80,000 Koreans who crossed its threshold during the last eight years."

In Pyeng Yang and Seoul, as a result of special meetings in February, 2,000 converts in twenty days.

THE BUBBLE AT SYEN CHUN.

Several years ago a missionary in China hearing of the work in Korea said: "It's a bubble."

Five years ago difficult to get an audience of 100 at the Syen Chun church, now a membership of 1,435. The work in the district has grown in a year from 10 circles to 13, from 60 groups to 78, from 6,507 Christians to 11,943, or 5,436 conversions during the twelve months, an average of 453 per month.

Rev. Charles E. Kearns baptized, last year, 1,027 adults and received 2,000 catechumens. He has under his care 45 boys' schools with 919 pupils, 11 girls' schools, 235 pupils.

The offerings of the native church for all purposes were yen 19,842.46 (\$9,921.23).

In the eight divisions in Bible Study classes, 1,140 men were enrolled.

Of the fifty theological students at Pyeng Yang, fourteen came from Syen Chun. In nearly every case the churches have made generous offerings to aid the students.

Eighteen new churches built, and 27 old ones enlarged during the year. Seventy church buildings in the Province, all save two erected by the Koreans.

The Christians of Syen Chun district pledged 8,000 days for special definite evangelistic effort last Spring.

There are 56 day schools, 1,119 pupils, receiving not one dollar of foreign money. There is not a native preacher, or evangelist or teacher in the Province on foreign salary, though three receive a small portion of salary from foreign funds. For every American dollar invested in the station, the Koreans have given \$8.01.

The Island of Sinmido, thirty miles from Syen Chun, and Kado, fifty miles away, have flourishing churches. There are churches on the other islands off the coast.

THE MACEDONIAN CALL FROM EUI JU.

There are 25 or 30 vigorous churches and 3,000 Christians within a radius of 51 li (17 miles), the churches all clamoring for a resident missionary. Three hundred yen per month (\$150) have been pledged by the Eui Ju Christians for a resident missionary.

A fine tile building situated near the church has become available for a school. It accommodates one hundred pupils. The income is 200 yen per month, paid by the Koreans through the Eui Ju Academy Association.

Two churches in Manchuria near the border have 70 members. A recent edict forbids assembling of the Koreans for any purpose whatever.

The word "ap-chei"—oppression—is much heard in Korea this year. Unscrupulous Japanese are using recently acquired power to oppress Korean Christians in northern Korea. The Christians of the infant church at Pyeng Yang refused to work without wages. They won out. Korea needs much prayer in these days.

90,000 CHRISTIANS IN KOREA.

Dr. C. C. Vinton writes: "It is the record of the Winter and Spring that the number of those who acknowledged Jesus as Master and Lord has grown from 60,000 to 90,000 in all denominations in Korea. The trend is toward Christianity, many coming from the higher ranks of Korean society."

1906-07

February 5, 1991

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Moffett,

I'd like to thank you again for our very enjoyable lunch yesterday. I sincerely appreciate your interest in my work, and so enjoyed getting to know you and to learn of your work in Korea. Most of all I appreciated your warm Christian fellowship.

By the way, the Seminary catalogue lists as a "guest" Samuel A. Moffett, D.D., of Pyongyang, in 1906/07. His room was #20⁹, Hodge Hall. I wonder if the Registrar's office might be able to tell you more.

Thanks again, and I hope I'll see you another time soon.

Sincerely, ^{Gunsan} Brad ↑

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- Source unidentified.